

ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY 1/5/2021  
406 SIMMONS  
ELBA AL 36323

1,000 meals  
distributed for  
Elba students  
last week



INSIDE

Elba softball /  
baseball seniors  
recognized  
recently



INSIDE

Taking a look at  
the "Signs of the  
Time" around  
Elba



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 123, Number 45

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, April 2, 2020

1 Section, 10 Pages

## Elba and Coffee County superintendents discuss 'closure' announcement

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Alabama Governor Kay Ivey and State Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey announced Thursday, March 26, the closure of all Alabama Schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

While this closure means no school will take place in the school buildings, the governor and state superintendent said alternative methods would be used in this unprecedented time to ensure Alabama's children still receive their instructional hours for the rest of this school year. They said 'how' that happens will be left up to each individual school system to identify the plan that works best for its students.

This is all due to continued safety measures being put in place in the state to try and protect citizens from the novel coronavirus [COVID-19]. Dr. Mackey said the new target date for the 2019-2020 school year to end now would be June 5th.

Shortly following Thurs-

day's announcement, Elba City Schools Superintendent Chris Moseley sent out a message to the Elba community.

"As most of you already know, it has been announced that students will not return to school for the remainder of this school year," he said. "We had already begun planning for this possibility before we closed."

Schools already had been closed since March 19th due to the COVID-19 crisis and were scheduled to return to school on Monday, April

6, until last Thursday's announcement from the governor and state schools superintendent.

Coffee County Schools Superintendent Kevin Killingsworth said the following in a letter he released following the announcement. He noted while the announcement was disheartening and not the course hoped for, the Coffee County Schools' district is working diligently to develop a plan that will ensure

the plan that works best for its students.

This is all due to continued safety measures being put in place in the state to try and protect citizens from the novel coronavirus [COVID-19].

Dr. Mackey said the new target date for the 2019-2020 school year to end now would be June 5th.

See SCHOOLS, Page 3

## Coffee County Commission closes all 'county buildings' to the public

To minimize the risk of exposure to the coronavirus for citizens and employees, all Coffee County buildings were closed to the public effective Friday, March 27.

County administrator Rod Morgan said county offices will continue to operate and staff will be present, but all offices will be closed to the public until further notice. Local conditions will continue to be evaluated daily and county offices will reopen as soon as it is feasible to do so.

Substantially, all transactions at county offices (including payments, recording documents, and viewing documents or maps) can be conducted online, over the phone, or by mail. Information regarding county offices can be found online at [www.coffeecounty.us](http://www.coffeecounty.us).

All county senior centers will continue to provide meals for pickup at the center and will continue home delivery of meals.

Anyone needing to make a payment to the Revenue Commissioner may call the Revenue Office at (334) 897-2475 (Elba) or (334) 347-8734 (Enterprise) to make payment arrangements.

Further information for the revenue commissioner's office may be found online through the County website ([www.coffeecounty.us](http://www.coffeecounty.us)) or directly at [www.coffee-countyrevenue.com](http://www.coffee-countyrevenue.com)

"The county commission encourages everyone to continue to follow guidance

**Reminder:**  
**CrimeStoppers**  
offering reward  
in Elba murder  
investigation

Elba Police continue to seek help in solving the January 16, 2020 murder of Donta Jaquin Rogers. The Central Alabama CrimeStoppers division is offering a cash reward of up to \$5,000 for a tip that results in the capture and conviction of the person(s) responsible for killing Rogers.

Anyone with information regarding this homicide investigation is urged to immediately call the Elba Police Department [897-2555] or CrimeStoppers using the 24-hour tip line at 215-STOP [7867]; CrimeStoppers P3-tip app for phone, computer or other electronic device; or CrimeStoppers new 800 number, 1-833-AL1-STOP.

from health officials to protect themselves and to help minimize the impact of the virus," Morgan said.

If a citizen develops a fever and symptoms such as a cough or difficulty breathing, please call a healthcare provider before seeking medical treatment. If citizens suspect they have COVID-19, call the Alabama COVID-19 24/7 hotline at 1-888-264-2256 for testing sites and hours of operation.



**HOUSE FIRE DESTROYS HOME IN CURTIS COMMUNITY...** The Elba Volunteer Fire Department, assisted by Opp Fire, extinguished this house fire last Thursday afternoon, March 26, before it could spread to other nearby structures. Elba Fire was dispatched to the house fire at 4385 Highway 141 just prior to 3 p.m. last Thursday, and the first firefighters on scene found the house fully engulfed in flames. Above, one of the first firemen to attack the massive burner actually is shown running towards the flames with water hoses across his shoulder. The firemen worked diligently and had the flames under control in less than 30 minutes; however, they remained on scene for several hours working to put out any flare ups and hotspots. While firefighters were battling the fire, a portion of Highway 141 between Danley's Crossroads and U.S. Highway 84 was blocked off to traffic. Assisting firefighters on scene were officers with the Elba Police Department, Coffee County Sheriff's Department, as well as emergency medical responders with Haynes Ambulance. No injuries resulted from this fire.

## Amended statewide public health order in effect through April 17th

by Linda Hodge, Editor

On Friday, March 27, Alabama Governor Kay Ivey and Alabama Public Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris held a press conference to announce the state's amended statewide 'safer at home' public health order for social distancing.

This order further suspended certain public gatherings and closed more businesses, using the legal term 'non-essential' due to the risk of infection by the novel coronavirus disease [COVID-19].

Governor Ivey announced Friday that effective Saturday, March 28, at 5 p.m., all non-work related gatherings of 10 or more persons, or non-work related gatherings of any size that cannot maintain a consistent six-foot distance between persons are prohibited. She said these new public health orders would remain in effect in Alabama through 5 p.m. Friday, April 17, 2020.

"Employers shall take all reasonable steps to meet these standards for employees and customers," the governor noted.

However, Governor Ivey then presented a very lengthy list of businesses, venues and activities that were being ordered closed to non-employees or not take place from 5 p.m. March 28th through 5 p.m. April 17th. These included:

• Entertainment venues such as: night clubs, bowl alleys, arcades, concert venues, theaters, auditoriums, performing arts centers, tourist attractions (including museums and planetariums), race tracks, indoor children's play areas, adult entertainment venues, casinos, bingo halls, venues operated by social clubs;

• Athletic facilities and activities, such as: fitness centers and commercial gyms, spas and public or commercial swimming pools, yoga, barre and spin facilities, spectator sports, sports that involve interaction with another person



The State of Alabama showed a total of 979 cases of COVID-19 had been confirmed in the state as of 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 31st. At that time, only eight counties in the state had not reported a confirmed case - Coffee County remained among those eight. The total tested and and reported to ADPH at this time Tuesday was 7,249. There had been 20 deaths with 13 of those fully investigated and attributed directly to the COVID-19 virus.

closer than 6-feet, activities that require use of shared sporting apparatus and equipment;

• Retail stores, such as: furniture and home-furnishings stores, clothing, shoe and clothing-accessory stores, jewelry, luggage and leather goods stores, department stores, sporting goods stores, book, craft and music stores.

The governor said all Al-

abama beaches would remain closed during this new order as well. She had originally ordered the beaches closed on March 19th. The order uses the term "beach" to include places with a sandy shoreline area abutting the Gulf of Mexico, whether privately or publicly.

See ORDER, Page 3

## WHEN YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, WE ARE THERE WITH YOU.

As the United States faces the worst public health crisis in a generation, we want you to know we are here for you — and with you.

Whatever happens, whenever it happens, your newspaper will be there for you. We'll be there to let you know how our community is managing through this crisis — from business to government to the health care system and schools to the drastic impact on individuals and families.

And, we'll be there to let you know about the good and extraordinary things happening in the midst of this crisis — the way people in our community are coming together to help health workers, the city and nonprofit workers attending to the homeless community, the volunteers bringing food to and shopping for the elderly people who cannot leave their homes, and the health workers putting themselves in harm's way

to care for the sick.

Amidst the sadness and anxiety, there are uplifting moments that remind us of the resilience of the human spirit, and we'll be there to document those too.

We are here to help you make sense of the situation and to help you navigate it.

Having fact-based, reliable reporting that provides public scrutiny and oversight is more important than ever. Together, across the decades, this newspaper and its readers have navigated horrific events — natural disasters, terrorism, financial downturns, periods of extreme political and societal division.

This challenge is greater than any of those, but, rest assured, we'll be here for you. We are a resilient community where people come together to build and rebuild. Let's stick together, and we will come through this, too.

## EDITORIAL

### BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

*"With my last breath, I'll exhale my love for you. I hope it's a cold day, so you can see what you meant to me."*

Jarod Kintz

The lockdown is getting tighter and tighter both in Alabama and nationwide in the wake of the ravaging effects of the new virus issue. A week ago we made a snide remark after Governor Ivey announced a number of businesses having to shut their doors for a while due to the spread of this virus. We noted openly that she didn't dare shut down the beauty shops and only a female would have known the importance of those places to our society. Well, here we fast forward to Friday morning, just as Heddy and I got back from her weekly hair appointment and there the governor is on the air announcing the shutdown of, among others, beauty and barber shops. Women had a 24-hour notice that it would weeks before they again had access to their favorite hair styling shop. More than one female immediately got on the phone seeking an appointment . . . . immediately! Women should not worry – they are all in the same boat. Seriously our sympathy goes out to the beauticians and all the other folks who are suddenly unemployed through no fault of their own and for an unknown length of time, but hopefully it will save lives. Who knows where the other shoe will drop in the desperate effort to stop or at least slow the spread of Corona 19.

All these preventive measures may be over-reacting, but it will be far better to look back and acknowledge we hit the panic button rather than be saying "Oops, we goofed."

We will take the government check the feds are promising everyone but feel guilty. The government doesn't have this two-trillion-dollars and our conscience pangs a bit when we know that our grandchildren, and their children will be saddled with paying the interest on this wad of money. Paying just the interest we say, as the principal will probably never, ever be repaid. The United States government was already operating on a budget that was a trillion dollars in the red for this year and now . . . now the politicians are taking pats on the back for their actions. Oh, we would have voted for the massive spending had we been one of the Washington elite but would like to have seen them operating on a balanced budget BEFORE this unexpected emergency arose. Alas that is not the way government works. It is not the way politicians go back home and tell the folks how much money they "got from Washington" for the home folks. They spend borrowed money, get re-elected, increase their own pay, etc. and life goes forward.

It isn't all doom and gloom around Elba, Ala. This Amaryllis is proof positive. Heddy's potted plants have gone sorely lacking since caring for them fell to ye 'ole publisher by default. This beautiful blooming plant has not had any water, fertilizer, etc. since – who knows when! Yet it is displaying blooms like never before. Also, while looking up the correct spelling of 'Amaryllis', Google showed an ad wanting to sell various colors of this flower. The red one was priced at over a hundred dollars (only one left!). The one that matched the flower in this picture was 'only' \$69.99! They clearly are not hard to grow . . . . this one is living testament to that fact.



March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month



See the Value in All People  
#DDAwareness2020

Alabama Council on  
Developmental Disabilities acdd.org

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Ricky Mularz - SPORTS

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year  
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax

Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax  
6 months - \$13

Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

### Marine Patrol Division reminds everyone about social distancing/water safety

Because schools, businesses and churches have closed indefinitely in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), more people are spending their free time on Alabama waterways.

Activity on Alabama's lakes, rivers and other bodies of water typically increases during spring break season, but ALEA's Marine Patrol Division Troopers have seen numbers spike during the past few days with COVID-19 closures. These Troopers are patrolling waterways daily, and they want everyone to have an enjoyable but safe time by adhering to Governor

Kay Ivey's order as it relates to combating the spread of the virus.

Alabama beaches were closed March 19, and effective Saturday, March 28, all non-work related gatherings on 10 persons or more, or non-work related gatherings of any size that cannot maintain a consistent 6-foot distance between individuals, also were prohibited.

Troopers with ALEA's Marine Patrol remind boaters of social distancing, as well as water safety:

- The designated driver practice works just as well on the water as it does on the road. If boaters insist on

having alcohol on board, make sure there is a designated driver.

- Be courteous and cautious.
- Follow boating rules. Know what to do in a head-to-head meeting and know the right-of-way rules and regulations.

- Give other boaters plenty of room. Don't operate too closely to private docks or the shoreline, and give skiers and swimmers a wide berth.

- Never overload a vessel. Follow the capacity plate guidelines.

- Make it a habit to check the vessel's safety equipment before using the vessel – every time.

### Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, March 24, and Monday, March 30, conducted the following activity:

**TUESDAY, MARCH 24** – Officers responded to a prowler complaint on Taylor Ave (4:46 a.m.); Officers responded to a criminal mischief complaint at the Dairy Queen (8:09 a.m.); Officers responded to a criminal mischief complaint at 315 Sawyer St (9:03 p.m.); Officers responded to a theft of property complaint at Bryan Pharmacy (5:05 p.m.); Officers responded to a prowler complaint on Taylor Ave (6:59 p.m.); Officers responded to a breaking and entering of a residence on County Rd 401 (7:03 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25** – Officers responded to an assault complaint at a residence on Private Rd 1307 (12:24 a.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint at 14786 Hwy 87 (2:50 a.m.); Officers responded to a complaint of suspicious circumstances at 878 Claxton Ave (3:48 a.m.); Officers responded to a theft of property complaint at the Inland store (12:07 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26** – Officers responded to a suspicious person complaint on Claxton Ave N (12:54 p.m.); Officer responded to a structure fire at 4385 Hwy 141 (2:58 p.m.); Officers responded to a harassment complaint on Davis St E (3:28 p.m.); Officers investigated an identity theft complaint reported from 830 Harper Dr (5:12 p.m.); Officers responded to a harassment complaint on Forest Ave (5:25 p.m.); Officers responded to a criminal mischief complaint on Adkinson Ave (8:43 p.m.); Officers responded to a criminal mischief complaint at 702 Hwy 203 (8:58 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, MARCH 27** – Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint at Hwy 87 and County Rd 518 (3:56 p.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint on Pinedale Dr (5:24 p.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint at Hwy 87 and County Rd 518 (3:56 p.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint on Pinedale Dr (5:24 p.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint at Hwy 87 and County Rd 518 (3:56 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28** – Officers responded to a suspicious person complaint in the area of Adkinson Ave and Martin Luther King Dr (1:57 a.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint on Claxton Ave N (2:01 a.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious person complaint on Farris Ave (2:07 a.m.); Officers responded to a trespassing complaint at Mr. Henry's (9:44 a.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint on Martin Luther King Dr (2:11 p.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious person complaint at Burger King (4:59 p.m.); Officers responded to a harassment complaint at 903 Wayne St (9:07 p.m.); Officers responded to a shots fired complaint on Old Samson Rd (10:26 p.m.); Officers responded to a shots fired complaint on Stoudemire St (10:32 p.m.); Officers responded to a traffic accident at 1176 Neil Grantham Dr (11:19 p.m.); Officers responded to a shots fired complaint on Lee St (11:48 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29** – Officers responded to a suspicious circumstances complaint at the Elba Nursing & Rehabilitation (1:04 a.m.); Officers responded to a trespassing complaint at Collier St and Putnam Ave (11:27 a.m.); Officers responded to a fight complaint at the Elba Laundromat (5:03 p.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious person complaint at Kendrick St and Farris St (5:18 p.m.); Officers responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint at Harris Temple Church of God (7:37 p.m.).

**MONDAY, MARCH 30** – Officers responded to an ATV complaint on Martin Luther King Dr (5:57 p.m.); Officers responded to a theft of property complaint at 138 Riverview Dr (6:22 p.m.); Officers responded to a harassing communications complaint at Elba Villas (7:11 p.m.).

## Cook Chevrolet



2010 Camaro  
\$195<sup>00</sup> a month\*

5538P1



2017 Ford Edge  
\$234<sup>00</sup> a month\*

5672P



We Will Beat The Pants  
Off Of Any Deal



We Will Beat The Pants  
Off Of Any Deal



2017 Nissan  
Altima  
\$161<sup>00</sup> a month\*

5657P



2019 Hyundai  
Elantra  
\$192<sup>00</sup> a month\*

5649P

\$3,000 down, 3.9% interest for 72 months wac

## Cook Chevrolet

N. Troy Highway, Elba, AL 36323  
mycookchevy.com

**SCHOOLS**

(Continued from Page ONE)

all students receive critical standards for the last nine weeks of school.

"Our primary goal is to ensure the health and safety of our students, while delivering critical content to provide opportunities for promotion to the next grade level and to earn the second-semester credits required to advance [students] in their pursuit of college and career goals," Killingsworth said.

Both school systems were scheduled for Spring Break this week and have been observing that as normal. A return to educating begins Monday, April 6, only from a distance learning perspective instead of the normal classroom setting for the last nine weeks of school.

Both Moseley and Killingsworth said more information would be provided to their faculty, students and parents throughout this Spring Break week as all prepared for their new way

of teaching and learning to begin next week and continue until the end of this school year.

"To our parents and students, please be patient as we gather information and make decisions for the remainder of this year," Moseley said. "That being said, depending on where this goes there are possibilities of some activities taking place much later than expected."

Elba City Schools has announced this week a plan for food distribution to students for breakfast and lunch for each Monday – Friday. Please see Page 7 of today's paper for more information on that plan.

"While I am aware there are still many questions and concerns, I assure everyone that we are committed to addressing these questions and providing more guidance as information becomes available," Killingsworth said.

Each superintendent encouraged all to continue to

monitor website pages, Facebook pages, etc. for updates. They also said they would be utilizing the phone messaging systems to get information out as well.

"As educators we are all heartbroken for the activities that would be missed for the remainder of this year," Moseley said. "That being said, depending on where this goes there are possibilities of some activities taking place much later than expected."

During last week's announcement, Dr. Mackey said events such as proms, graduations, etc. could possibly still be held; however, he said that would need to be after the June 5<sup>th</sup> date.

Moseley and Killingsworth said, if possible, the schools would make every effort to make sure such events [that were upcoming when the schools were closed] take place even if during the summer.

order until further notices. There were some exceptions noted regarding emergency medical procedures.

Friday's amended health order also kept in place an order regarding restaurants, bars, breweries, or similar establishments to not permit on-premises consumption of food or drink. Governor Ivey did encourage Alabama citizens to continue to support these businesses by ordering takeout or delivery and ordering online for curbside pickup of food, as well as, utilizing drive-thru services where available.

Dr. Harris added that prior to the April 17th date for the end of the current health order that officials would make a determination as to whether or not there needs to be an extension to the current public health order.

"Everyone plays a critical role in protecting others and is encouraged to spend as much time as possible at home to prevent an increase in new infections," Dr. Harris said.

The public is reminded to stay home if sick except to

order until further notices. There were some exceptions noted regarding emergency medical procedures.

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Telephone calls are answered from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. daily, and a language line is available for people who do not speak English.

The COVID-19 General Information Email address - covid19info@adph.state.al.us

In addition, a toll-free phone line provides information about available testing sites and hours of operation statewide at 888-264-2256. No medical advice is given on this line.

Graveside services were

available for those who do not speak English.

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available for those who do not speak English.

## Reflections: Welcome to Real Life

by Michael J. Brooks

I responded to an offer to try the Lifetime Movie Club on a trial basis. I thought this might be good entertainment during these days with few evening commitments. I'd understood LMC was a channel overflowing with happy programming. After viewing a few episodes, however, I realized something must be wrong. These movies are filled with double-dealing, disappointment and deceit.

A friend enlightened me.

"No, it's Hallmark that has the happy movies," he said.

I was wrong. This month I have the channel of real life!

I suppose that's what we're all experiencing in these days. Real life means no worship, no school and no hugging people we love. We pray this terrible contagion be over soon and we can return to real life.

But, actually, real life is not always happy. Real life has divorce, drunk driving, hunger, disease, abuse, financial crises and death. Real life will continue after COVID-19 is a distant memory.

I remember a Billy Graham film from long ago entitled, "For Pete's Sake." It was influential in my teen-aged years and a film churches used to screen on Sunday nights for a change-of-pace. This movie tells the story of Pete, a new Christian. Pete's life was filled with good things, good humor and new discoveries until his wife had a seizure and died.

Of course, Pete was devastated to lose the love of his life. He confronted his pastor: "To think I trusted God, and this is the way he deals," he said.

Pete had to come to terms with real life. And though some critics claimed otherwise, the Graham organization didn't ignore this, but taught us the truth about discipleship way back in the 60s—being a Christian doesn't shield us from the tragedies of life.

Jesus insisted that it rains on the just and the unjust (Matthew 5:45).

We don't live in a dream world. However, we know being a Christian means we have new perspective on tragedy. We believe God strengthens us in difficulty and uses it for ultimate good. Nor does he abandon us. We also believe we have new partners in the faith community to love us through pain.

The late Lewis Drummond was among my favorite semi-

nary teachers. I remember a comment he made one day in class.

"When has God ever removed his people from tribulation?" he asked. "Instead, his promise is to see us through it."

Who knows what trials await us in the days after COVID-19? I don't choose to be a fatalist because by nature I'm an optimist. I believe God will see us through, that he has a good plan for his people and in his future kingdom he will set things right.

**\*\* Reflections is a weekly devotional column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church in Alabaster, Ala. The church's website is [siluriabaptist.com](http://siluriabaptist.com).**

## CHURCH NEWS

### Due to COVID-19 crisis Basin Baptist Church moving church services online for now

During this unprecedented time of social distancing due to the Coronavirus pandemic across the state and nation, Basin Baptist Church has altered its presentation of church services to be able to still bring the Word of God to its people.

Until the church is able to

safely reopen the church building for its regular Sunday and Wednesday gatherings, Basin Baptist Church will be offering a Sunday morning worship service at 11 a.m. and a Wednesday evening service at 6:30 p.m. on its public Facebook page (look for Basin Baptist Church).

**\*\* Reflections is a weekly devotional column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church in Alabaster, Ala. The church's website is [siluriabaptist.com](http://siluriabaptist.com).**

### Round and About with Eria's Daughter

(334) 897-3611



**Scripture:** Safety of Abiding in the Presence of God. Psalm 91: 1-16

#### Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Min. Robert Edwards, Dea. J.L. and Sis. Estella Williams, Nannie M. Kelley, Min. Joyce B. Johnson, Mamie Belcher, Beatrice Belcher, Betty Moore, Uncle Buddy Pitt's Family

#### March Birthdays / Anniversaries

Mark Harris 3/23  
Elder James Starks Jr. 3/26

O.B. Daniels 3/26 (in memory)

Brittany Phillips 3/27

Shai Y. Nelson 3/27

Myra Nicole Duncan 3/28

Tanshay Phillips 3/28

Bridgett Jones Rideaux 3/28

Cicero Henderson 3/28 (in memory)

Grover Jerald Belcher (in memory)

Michael and Connie Banks 3/28 W.A.

**\*\* Pastor's 15th Anniversary Celebration** will be Sunday, April 5, at Mt. Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Andalusia, Ala. for Rev. Elbert Freaney and Sis. Alice Freaney. Sunday School at 10:15 a.m.; Morning Worship at 11:30 a.m. with sermon by Rev. Lewis Matthews; Afternoon Service at 2:30 p.m. with sermon by Rev. Jimmy Lee.

#### Question / Answer Section Q/A for the Week of 3/26/20 - True or False

Q: God takes no pleasure when people die.

A: True [read Ezekiel 18:32]

Q: The Lord will eventually take away Jerusalem's judgement.

A: True [read Zephaniah 3:15]

#### Think on These Things

This global health pandemic has a deadly grip on the whole nation but will not last forever. We as believers of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ, Son of the Living God realize that God is bigger than any disease. Keep your faith in Jesus because our hope is in Him, Trust and Believe, on His Holy Name. Let's do as the medical professionals tell us to do. Pray as never before. [read James 5:16]

#### Question for the Week of 4/2/20

Q: This statement comes from what (book), (chapter), and (verse) of the New Testament? *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.* — NKJV-Nelson Study Bible

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

Eria's Daughter, Sue

**Obedience Becomes Complicated**  
Obedience to God was simple when the world was young. You may eat from all the trees except that one. If you eat from it, you die. Adam and Eve violated the only prohibition in the world, and they paid the price.

In later centuries, obedience became more complicated. God gave commandments and prohibitions by the dozens through Moses, but His people seemed intent on breaking them all.

**Today is a good day! Be grateful.**

Eria's Daughter, Sue

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## LIFESTYLES

### ALEA confirms STAR ID deadline extension and further limits in-person driver license services

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, at the direction of President Donald J. Trump, is extending the REAL ID enforcement deadline to Oct. 1, 2021, in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Alabama's version of the federal REAL ID program is STAR ID, which stands for Secure, Trusted and Reliable Identification.

"We began modifying the Driver License Division operations Monday, March 16, and continued to serve customers on a more limited basis to reduce potential exposure to the virus," ALEA Secretary Hal Taylor said. "Starting March 26, ALEA Driver License offices will close all public access, and staff will remain on-site to answer phones and assist with online services. As always, we are dedicated to serving the citizens of this state, but we must make the health and safety of our customers and our personnel a priority. This deadline extension should relieve some of the wait time at ALEA's DL offices to obtain a STAR ID during the next several months."

During this closure, ALEA's Driver License personnel will be making contact with customers who scheduled appointments for services prior to the pandemic.

Please see below a summary of what services Alabama citizens will or will not be able to do at this time:

#### Customers will NOT be able to:

- Obtain first-time issuance of DL/CDL or ID card
- Take knowledge test (Learner's License, Motorcycle, CDL)
- Take road test
- Transfer out-of-state license

#### Despite some courthouse closures

### Courts remain open in Alabama to ensure public's access to justice

While many courthouses throughout the state are shutting down as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Courts in Alabama remain open for business.

"As Coffee County Bar President, I think it is important for people to know that even though there have been some changes to how things are operating during these unprecedented times, the court system is still open. This situation and the orders from the Supreme Court of Alabama have not altered filing deadlines and statutes of limitations," said attorney James Tarbox. "People's legal rights could be adversely affected if they are not properly advised during this time."

Leaders of the Alabama State Bar are working in close coordination with the Supreme Court of Alabama, the Administrative Office of Courts, and the Circuit and District Judges Associations. Access to justice and the court system in Alabama has not changed as a result of the closure of courthouse facilities. Although the public has been prohibited from coming to the courtrooms, the business of the judicial branch continues in a variety of innovative ways.

Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Tom Parker has assembled appropriate staff members to implement systems that keep the public safe while also allowing judges continue to keep the legal process working for the people of Alabama.

"Judges, court personnel and lawyers continue to work on behalf of the public we serve to move cases in an efficient and safe manner by phone and videoconferencing technology," Parker said.

Alabama State Bar President Christy Crow, in partnership with judicial leaders in Alabama, sent a letter to Governor Kay Ivey last week, writing in part, "The

- Obtain foreign national/renewal
- Register vessel – first-time registration or transfer
- Obtain Ignition Interlock License

Customers will be able to:

- Renew DL/CDL/ID online
- Renew by mail – for Alabama drivers out of state for military, employment, missionary work, under a physician's care or other issues on a case-by-case basis

- Request a hearing online or by mail/fax. We will not take any law enforcement actions until hearing can be held.
- Change address by mail/email/fax. Address change document available online.

- Change name by mail/email. Contact ALEA DL for instructions.
- Renew hardship license
- Have license reinstated by mail/email/phone. May use credit card.

- Order MVR (driver history) by mail/email/phone. May use credit card.

- Order crash reports by mail/email/phone. May use credit card.

- Submit medical cards by fax/email
- Submit medical unit forms – fax/email
- Handle Mandatory Liability Insurance – online/mail

- Renew vessel registration online

Once ALEA's Driver License Division resumes normal operations, customers may schedule an appointment on the agency's website to obtain a STAR ID and conduct other driver license business. In addition, Secretary Taylor would like to remind the public of the 60-day grace period for driver licenses (Code of Alabama, 32-6-1), but cus-

tomers who would like to renew during the pandemic are encouraged to do so online.

Individuals whose driver licenses must be reinstated may contact the Driver License Division to handle it by phone.

For more information on STAR ID, online renewals and other services, and the latest on Driver License Division office closures, please visit [www.alea.gov](http://www.alea.gov).

**Senior Citizens Centers currently closed until further notice from SARCOA officials**

The City of Elba received directive last week from SARCOA [South Alabama Regional Council on Aging] that all senior centers in the region will be closed beginning Monday, March 16, 2020, until further notice.

This directive affects all senior citizen centers in Coffee County. Meals will still be provided to those seniors whom already participate in the meal program.

SARCOA is taking these steps because of their concern for the health and wellness of the seniors amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Renew vessel registration online

The Piney Woods Arts Festival, an event sponsored each year by the Coffee County Arts Alliance, has been cancelled this year.

Piney Woods was scheduled for this upcoming weekend, April 4 & 5, 2020, on the Enterprise State

Lifestyles News is Due on Monday!



**GRAB AND GO LUNCH FOR ELBA STUDENTS...** Last week, Elba City Schools did a 'Grab-n-Go Elba Food Distribution' for its students on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. This service was available to anyone under 18 years of age. There were five distribution sites for the students to drive up and pick up their bagged lunches. Above, student Hunter and Devon Chapman picked up their bagged lunch last Monday, March 23, from teacher Jamie Hudson and Christina Morgan at the Elba Church of Christ distribution point. Elba City Schools also now has formulated a plan for delivering meals to students for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, which will have students learning from home due to the school buildings being closed as a coronavirus safety precaution until June. Beginning Monday, April 6, meals to Elba's students will be delivered on Mondays at designated locations and will include 5 breakfast and 5 lunch meals for that week. Please see Page 7 for more information on this meal delivery plan.

#### In lieu of previously scheduled banquet

### Bryant-Jordan award recipients to be announced Monday, April 13, via special online/tv presentation

Due to the recent developments in the ongoing COVID 19 virus crisis, the 35th Bryant-Jordan Scholarship Awards Banquet scheduled for April 13 at the Birmingham Sheraton Hotel will now be a produced television and online event announcing the region, class and overall 2020 Bryant-

Jordan scholarship recipients.

The Bryant-Jordan Foundation has worked out an agreement with WOTM-TV to produce a television show which will be broadcast over the AHSAA TV Network and the NFHS Network. The feed will be made available free to all cable providers and will also be available at the following convenient links: [www.bryantjordan.org](http://www.bryantjordan.org) [www.wotsmtv.com](http://www.wotsmtv.com) [www.ashof.org](http://www.ashof.org)

The show will air on April 13 beginning at 6 p.m., same time as the banquet's original start time.

Community College campus; however event coordinators said the safety of the public, artists, and vendors is of primary importance in light of the current Corona Virus health crisis thus leading to the cancellation of this year's event.

The dates for Piney Woods next year will be April 17 and 18, 2021.

**SHOP  
ELBA  
FIRST!**

**WE ARE TAKING NECESSARY SAFETY PRECAUTIONS, BUT PLEASE KNOW WE ARE STILL OPEN AND HERE TO HELP YOU IN ANY WAY YOU NEED!**

**The Grantham Agency**

603 N. Claxton Ave., Elba, AL

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**email: [clipper@troycable.net](mailto:clipper@troycable.net) or [clipperace@troycable.net](mailto:clipperace@troycable.net)**

**Temporarily Closed for Routine and Non-Urgent Dental Procedures!**

**COVID-19**

*In light of the unprecedented events occurring in our nation today, and by recommendation of the Alabama Department of Public Health as well as the Alabama Board of Dental Examiners, the dental office of Dr. Timothy Jackson will be temporarily closed for routine and non-urgent dental procedures.*

**Dr. Timothy Jackson will continue to see and treat patients on an emergency basis only.**  
**Any pressing dental emergencies may seek assistance by calling the office at (334) 897-3418.**

*Hopefully this closure will be short-lived, and the office will reopen within two to three weeks.*

*We are still available to serve the dental needs of Elba and the surrounding areas!*

**Thank You for Your Patronage, Patience, and Understanding during this time of Uncertainty.**

**As always, brush your teeth, wash your hands, and flatten the curve!**

**Dr. Timothy Jackson, DMD  
982 Drayton Ave, Elba, AL**



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### *Alabama Extension Office offers tips*

#### **Get organized while social distancing**

The coronavirus (COVID-19) is bringing the new reality of social distancing to all. Social distancing leaves everyone with more time on his or her hands than usual. Well, no time like the present to be productive and use this time to prepare for the unexpected.

Organizing important records and papers is a task that is always dreaded, mainly for the lack of time to get it done. The unexpected time now will not be available when emergencies arise. In those times of emergencies, having easy access to important records and papers is important.

What are the benefits of organizing important records and papers?

- Easy accessibility.
- Proof of transactions.
- Availability to assist personal representative of your estate.
- Awareness of documentation needed to complete records and legal papers.
- Peace of mind

The biggest obstacle to overcome is getting started. As with anything, remember to take things a little at a time.

Start by going through current mail as it arrives. There will be time later to go back and look through the backlog.

Designate a comfortable work area. Have good lighting and needed supplies within reach. Keep a trash can handy to dispose of unnecessary papers and junk mail.

Then make a plan. Set aside a regular time, perhaps weekly, to maintain the organization process. Once this plan is in place, stick to it. Complete the inventory, update it annually, and locate any missing items.

The following is a list of items to locate and include in your organization process.

#### **Personal Family Records**

- Insurance policies
- Health records
- Education records
- Employment records
- Licenses to practice

#### **Property Records**

- Property deeds
- Motor vehicle records
- Equipment warranties, guarantees, and instruction books
- Records of home purchase and improvements
- Real estate records
- Burial plots
- Time-share information
- Property improvement



### **THE FOUR WAY TEST**

of the things we Think, Say or Do



- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

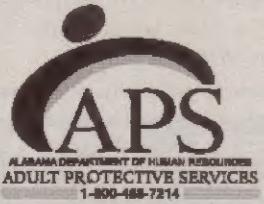
Compliments of

### **ELBA ROTARY CLUB**

### **1 OUT OF 10 ELDERLY PERSONS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE BEING: Abused, Neglected or Exploited**

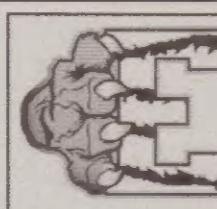
If you suspect this is happening to someone you know, please report it to Adult Protective Services by contacting your local DHR office or calling the ADULT ABUSE HOTLINE at 1-800-458-7214

**HELP STOP THE ABUSE  
IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT**



**There's no excuse for  
ELDER ABUSE**

This project was supported by Subgrant #16-VA-KS-078 awarded by the Law Enforcement/Traffic Safety Division of ADEA and the U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice or grant-making component.



### **Elba City School System**

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM  
181 Tiger Drive  
Elba, AL 36351  
Office (334) 897-3000

Christina Morgan  
Child Nutrition Program  
Director

Elba City Schools Child Nutrition program will resume providing meals to children on Monday, April 6, 2020. Meals will be distributed on Monday's only. On Mondays, each child between 1 and 18 years of age will receive 5 breakfast and 5 lunch meals for that week.

The following locations will have a bus/vehicle drive up to hand out meals to students ages 1 through 18 at the following times:

Morrow Village	1021 Farris Ave. Elba, AL	10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Powell Trailer Court	Elba, AL	10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Mullins Apartments	Kendrick St. Elba, AL	10:25 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.
Westside Baptist Church	1026 Caroline St. Elba, AL	10:25 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.
Harris Temple	747 Adams St. Elba, AL	10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Beaver Dam Apartments	100 Beaver Dam St. Elba, AL	10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Per USDA guidelines, children must be present in order for meals to be provided. This program will be solely for the pick-up of meals, and meals will not be consumed on site. We encourage families to continue to be proactive in reducing the risk of COVID-19 by not congregating at the sites once the meals have been distributed.

We encourage all families to continue to practice to slow the spread of COVID-19 such as washing your hands, covering sneezes and coughs and observing social distancing protocols.

Call 334-897-3000 or email cmorgan@elbacd.com if you have any questions.

### **Local area's Troy Cablevision receives two grants**

#### **Governor Ivey awards \$9.5 million in broadband expansion grants**

Gov. Kay Ivey this week awarded 20 grants totaling more than \$9.5 million to provide high-speed internet access to numerous communities throughout Alabama.

Contact information for government offices that can help you get started:

- Citizenship and naturalization documents: [https://www.uscis.gov/n-565](http://www.uscis.gov/n-565)
- Marriage licenses, divorce and adoption decrees, birth and death certificates: <http://www.vitalrec.com/usmap.html>
- Federal income tax returns: <http://www.irs.gov/ua/c>Contact-Your-Local-IRS-Office-1>
- Military discharge papers: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>
- Social Security card: [https://www.ssa.gov/en-US/Topic/article/K-02017](http://www.ssa.gov/)

Don't let this valuable time go to waste. Make use of the current downtime by preparing for the future.

### **PUBLIC NOTICES: (Continued from Page 6)**

#### **New Brockton Fire Department Request for Proposal**

#### **RECEIPT AND OPENING OF BIDS**

The New Brockton Fire Department (Purchaser) requests bid proposals for the specified Self Contained Breathing Apparatus to be received by the Purchaser no later than

Date: April 15, 2020  
Time: 1:00 PM

#### **METHOD OF BIDDING**

The Purchaser requests bid proposals for a set of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus.

Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope, bearing on the outside the name and address of the CONTRACTOR and the words

"New Brockton Fire Department – SEALED BID FOR Self Contained Breathing Apparatus"

If forwarded by carrier, the sealed envelope must be enclosed in another envelope addressed to:

New Brockton Fire Department  
C/O Arnold Woodham  
Post Office Box 338  
New Brockton, AL 36351

Bid Opening will be at  
New Brockton Fire Department

If you have Question contact: Chief Arnold Woodham at 334-470-0014.

#### **PREPARATION OF BIDS**

Bids not submitted on the official bid forms and in the prescribed manner will be considered invalid and will be disqualified.

All costs much include freight, delivery, and as-

sembly, where applicable. Proposals taking total exception to bid specifications will not be accepted.

Contractor must assure that any bid will be valid for a period of 60 calendar days from the date of the bid opening.

No bid will be considered which requires the Purchaser to make a down payment or progress payment. A list of available options with pricing must be included.

The Purchaser reserves with right to evaluate bids that will meet their needs and may reject any and all bids with or without cause.

*Any references to manufacturer or brand names are for reference purposes only and are not intended to exclude products from other manufacturers. Equivalent products will be accepted; however product information should be included so a fair comparison to the specification may be made.*

The E 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 18, Township 5, Range 21, which lies

North of the Elba and Enterprise Highway, and containing about 15 acres, more or less, situated, lying and being in the County of Coffee, State of Alabama.

**LESS AND EXCEPT:** A lot or parcel of land heretofore conveyed to Mr. E. G. Brunson (now owned by Grady T. Barefoot), described as: A lot or parcel of land in the E 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 18, Township 5, Range 21 in Coffee County, Alabama and containing 3

acres, more or less, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the SE corner of

the property of Leon Roberts and wife, Foye Roberts,

where the same joins the property of Grady Barefoot;

thence North along the line for 831.5 feet; thence East

for 120 feet; thence South 350 feet; thence East 481.5

feet; thence South 481.5 feet to the North margin of U.S. 84; thence West along

the North margin of U.S. 84 for 180 feet to the point of beginning.

The above property is being sold "AS IS" and is subject to any and all reservations, easements, restrictions, covenants, rights of way, and all matters of record.

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt, costs and expenses arising out of the mortgagors' default, including attorney's fees.

Please be advised that Allen C. Jones, as a debt collector, is attempting to collect the debt identified herein and that any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

**TROY BANK AND TRUST COMPANY**

P.O. Box 967

Troy, Alabama 36081

**MORTGAGEE**

ALLEN C. JONES

202 W. Walnut Street

Troy, Alabama 36081

**ATTORNEY FOR MORTGAGEE**

3/26, 4/2, 9-chg



## SPORTS NEWS

### Views From The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

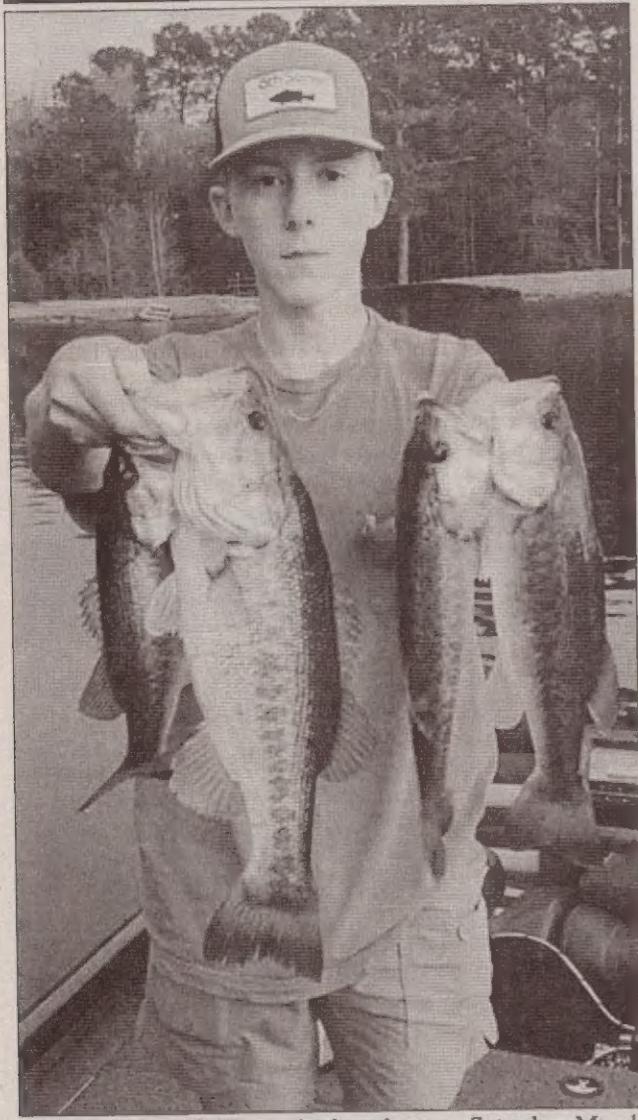
*Our grandson Lawson has already grown tired or playing his video games and last week asked his Nanny if she would order him some books to read during his time away from the classroom. The books were ordered and have already arrived, but we reminded him that he could still go outside for walks and practice his archery and other sports to get him out of the house. I know there will be some school-work to do beginning next week, but he will need lots to do to keep him busy, and we as grandparents will do our best to make sure he makes the best out of the bad situation.*

*For what it is worth....*

\*\*\* *The world of sports has come to a screeching halt* since the outbreak of the virus that is spreading across our world and locally it has marked the end of high school athletics for the school year. The lack of sports at the high school level has broken the hearts of thousands of student-athletes and fans, and while I think there may have been alternative solutions to the spreading of the virus, I agree it is always best to put safety first. I have a few ideas that I will use in the coming weeks to give all local sports fans something to read, but will be glad to hear your ideas and possibly use them in the long 'dead period' for sports.

\*\*\* *The fishing at the Coffee County Lake* has really picked up in recent weeks and anglers of all ages are enjoying the time off to get out and wet their hooks. It is one of the few sporting activities still allowed, and hopefully will remain a way to get the family outside and stay healthy in the fresh Alabama air!

### Spotlight on the OUTDOORS



AVERY PADGETT caught these bass on Saturday, March 21, while fishing at the Coffee County Lake. The bass were released after the picture was taken.

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The Elba Housing Authority does not discriminate because of race, color, national origin, sex, perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, religion, familial status, or disability. The Elba Housing Authority has handicapped accessible units.

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Bill Baxley, who served as Alabama's Attorney General and Lt. Governor, announces the relocation of his law practice.

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"I've tried cases in every county across this state, representing both individuals and businesses."

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No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.



## SEASON CANCELLED!

Alabama High School Athletic Association executive director Steve Savarese used words like "disappointed" and "deeply saddened" last week when he made it official that a directive from Gov. Kay Ivey had indeed cancelled all high school sports in the state for the remainder of the school year.

In a press release posted at the AHSAA website, the association stated "We understand the hardships and disappointments you are

facing due to the school closures, but also know, we are committed to putting the health, safety and overall well-being of our administrators, coaches and student-athletes at the forefront during this challenging time, and our priorities must focus on returning to a normal school year in 2020-2021 and graduating the seniors of 2020."

In a press release released on Friday, March 27, Savarese said, "Like thousands of others, I am deeply saddened and disappointed that our schools have closed and that spring sports will not have an opportunity to finish their seasons. Even more so, I am disheartened for all the student-athletes, contest officials, their coaches, families, student bodies, fans, communities, and especially our seniors. We are facing an unprecedented health crisis, but I am prayerful that the steps we are taking now within our schools and across the nation will enable all those affected to return to a sense of normalcy sooner than later."

The shutdown also resulted in the cancellation of all athletic activities, including contests, practices, weightlifting and conditioning. A coach will not be allowed to have physical contact with nor work with any students during this time, and schools will not be permitted to allow the use of any facilities during the mandated school closure.

### Wins 8-team match

### Elba Tiger golf team saves the best for last

The Elba Tiger golf team competed in an 8-team tournament recently at the Brewton Country Club and brought home one of its biggest wins in years as the Tigers won the event by 11 strokes.

The Tigers fired a 318 team total, led by John Martin Wilson with a 73, Collin Sauls with a 79, Peyton McCart with an 82 and Carson Wise with an 84. Paxton Wise fired an 18-hole score of 87, but his round was not needed as his Tiger teammates all posted some of

### Tiger golfers place 2nd at Eufaula tri-match

The Elba Tiger golf team recently competed in a tri-match at the Eufaula County Club and placed second with a team score of 337, which placed it behind Charles Henderson with a 94.

### Coffee County Lake open five days weekly from sun'up until sundown

The lake is known for having some of the biggest bass in the state, and also is filled with bluegill, shell-cracker, catfish and crappie. A fully stocked bait shop is located at the lake and has live bait that includes worms, crickets and minnows.

A state license is required for all anglers ages 12-64, and a daily \$3 permit is also required to fish at the lake.

For more information call 334-447-2384.

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**SCOREBOARD TELLS THE STORY...** The scoreboard at the Brewton Country Club told the story after the Elba Tigers won an 8-team match recently to close out its season.



Elba Tiger Collin Sauls prepares for a shot in recent high school golf action. Sauls fired a 74 to help lead the Tigers to a second place finish at a tri-match in Eufaula.

*(Photo by BC Sports Photography)*

**Bob Bush, DVM**  
Veterinary Express of South Alabama  
Small Animal Medicine & Surgery  
334-343-0408 • 582-2255 (Call)  
Intersection of Claxton Ave & Simmons St  
(across from the Elba Service Center)  
April 15 and April 29 • Hours: 10 am - 2 pm

**The Department of Labor can help WORKERS and EMPLOYERS with Unemployment Claims related to COVID-19.**  
File claims and get more information at **LABOR.ALABAMA.GOV**

**COVID-19**

**LABOR.ALABAMA.GOV**

Funding provided by the USDOL, ETA, Federal WIOA. An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

## SPORTS NEWS

### Elba baseball and softball seniors recognized prior to seasons being cancelled due to COVID-19

The Elba High School baseball and softball seniors were recognized recently on 'senior recognition night' held uncharacteristically early due to concerns over the coronavirus pandemic shutting down the seasons prematurely this year. Those fears were realized last week when it was announced there would be no more high school sports this school year due to the public health safety orders in place, which also closed school buildings for the remainder of the school year.

The Elba senior baseball players were recognized on their home field and followed this recognition with an intra-squad scrimmage after the team's regularly scheduled game versus Wicksburg was cancelled.

The Elba senior softball players were recognized in Kinston as the team had a regularly scheduled away game in Kinston on the evening the recognitions were held to make sure the players were recognized in case the seasons were over at that point.

Elba City Schools superintendent Chris Moseley publicly thanked, during an Elba Board of Education meeting, Coffee County Schools superintendent Kevin Killingsworth and Kinston Schools principal Danny Branch for their willingness to help the Elba program in recognizing its seniors prior to that game due to the unprecedented circumstances. He said the assured a special evening for these players, and it was truly appreciated.

Moseley also thanked the baseball coaches and Elba parents for making the night special for those players as well after their regular game was cancelled.



Elba High senior baseball player Chanler Coppage was recognized on 'senior night' Monday, March 16th. He is pictured above with his brother Brayson, mom Heather, and dad Billy Coppage along with Coach Glen Johnson. (photo by Linda Hodge)



Elba High senior baseball player Chanler Coppage was recognized on 'senior night' Monday, March 16th. He is pictured above with his brother Brayson, mom Heather, and dad Billy Coppage along with Coach Glen Johnson. (photo by Linda Hodge)



Elba High senior softball player Zaida Williams was recognized on 'senior night' Monday, March 16th. She is pictured above with her brother Zac Magwood and Elba High softball coach William Moguel. (photo by Colby Capps)



Elba High senior softball player Praise Edwards was recognized on 'senior night' Monday, March 16th. She is pictured above with Coach William Moguel, and her parents Willie and Shakeitha Edwards. (photo by Colby Capps)



Elba High senior baseball player Issac Watkins was recognized on 'senior night' Monday, March 16th. He is pictured above with his parents Sylvia and Dexter Watkins along with Coach Glen Johnson. (photo by Linda Hodge)

### Effective until at least Friday, April 17 at 5 p.m. COVID-19 health safety mandates close public parks in Elba

The City of Elba's Parks and Recreation Department closed the public parks in Elba after 5 p.m. Saturday, March 28, in accordance with the State of Alabama's public safety order that all 'public playgrounds' be closed through Friday, April 17, at 5 p.m.

This closure was one of several mandated by state officials last week to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 virus currently plaguing the state and nation.

Elba Parks and Recreation director Greg Hanchey said signage is in place at Elba's public parks, including Tiger Town Park, Hawkins-Williams Park and the Elba Recreation Center, noting the mandated closure at this time.

"We understand these measures will temporarily dampen the spirits of many people," Hanchey said. "We certainly

look forward to the time when a sense of normalcy is restored, and our parks are once again filled with joy!"

Prohibited activities related to parks and recreation until April 17th include:

- Spectator Sports
- Activities on Commercial or Public Playground Equipment
- Sports that involve interaction with another person of closer than 6 feet
- Activities that require use of shared sporting apparatus and equipment

Elba Parks and Recreation asks for compliance to these orders. The closed parks will be patrolled, and violators may be fined up to \$500 per incident.

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Landmark Park in  
Dothan closed  
through April 17th

Want to Get out of  
the House but Still  
Obey the Social  
Distancing Orders?  
  
Visit the  
Coffee  
County Lake!

Open  
Wednesday - Sunday  
from Sun Up until  
Sun Down!

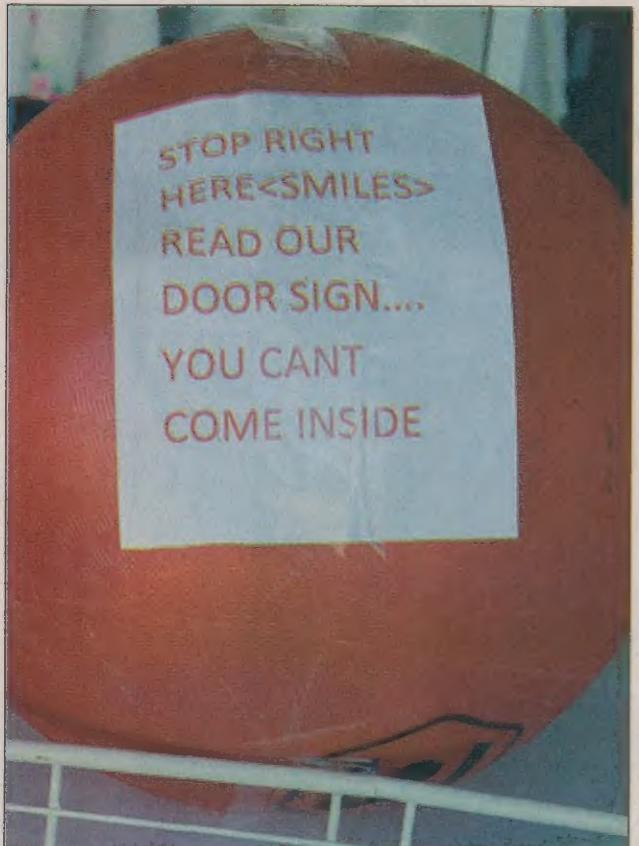
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## "Signs of the Time" around Elba this week due to COVID-19

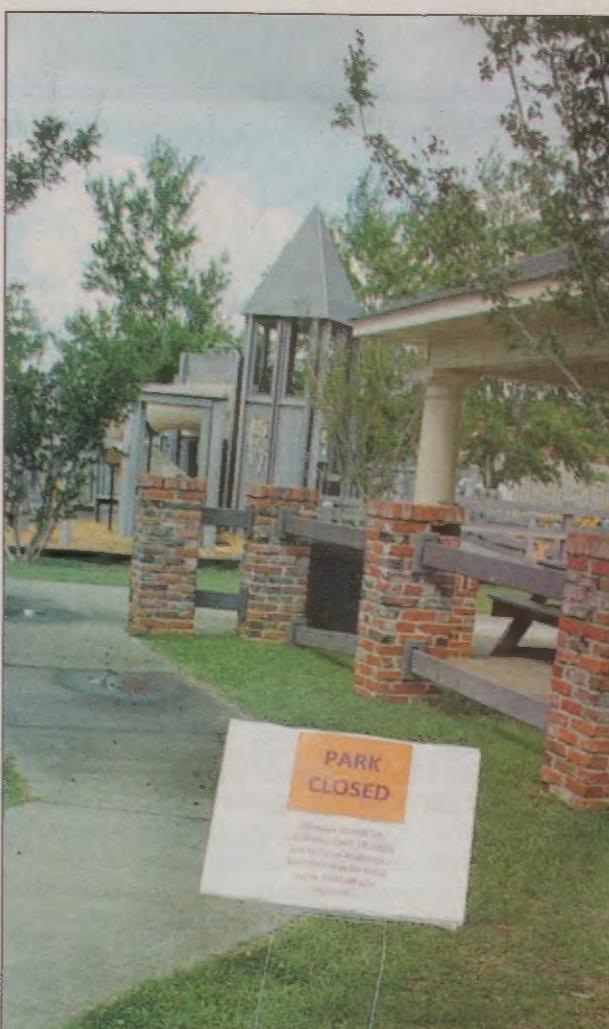
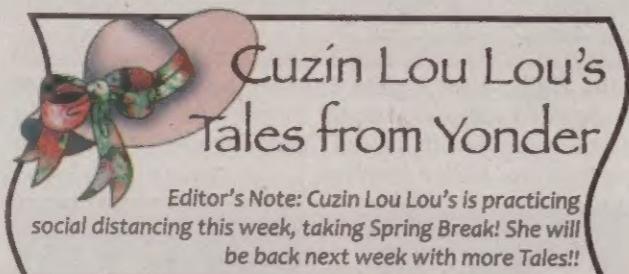


This bouncy ball reminds those trying to enter Kids ~ Teens ~ Moms Unlimited to STOP and read the door sign. Due to last Friday's amended state health order regarding COVID-19, the retail store had to close until 5 p.m. April 17th. It is unknown if that health order will be extended before that date. Owner Dinah Coppage has provided optional ways [with her door signage] for her customers to continue to shop, mostly utilizing online purchasing with curbside pickup of items.

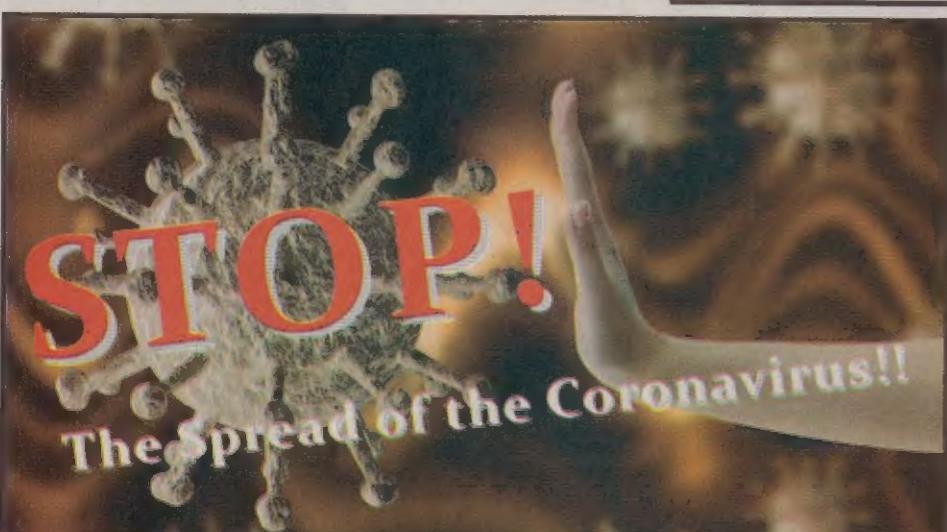


**STORE HOURS**

Bryan Pharmacy lets its customers know they currently are serving via drive-thru window only for the safety of the public and employees.



Tiger Town Park was among the public parks closed with last Friday's amended state health order through 5 p.m. April 17th. So, it will be at least then until the laughs and giggles of children playing on the equipment returns to downtown Elba.



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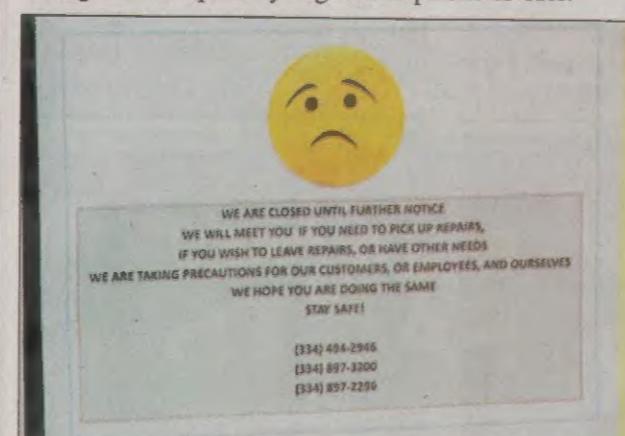
The Ranch House is serving its customers via drive thru window only during this time. Customers are encouraged to call ahead and place their order as the restaurant posts each day's lunch menu on its Facebook page. The eatery also has temporary hours in effect as the breakfast service has been discontinued until restaurants are allowed to reopen their dining areas inside.



Due to the Coronavirus,  
we are allowing  
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appointment ONLY.  
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Customers of the Post Office in Elba are allowed inside but must complete their transactions with employees through this temporarily engineered plastic divider.



Like many other businesses in Elba, The Jewel Box was saddened to have to close until further notice.

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**Shop ELBA for Your Needs!**  
Due to the COVID-19 health restrictions, many of our businesses have closed their dining halls and shopping areas, BUT they are still open for business in other ways! Use drive-thrus, order takeout, order online for curbside pickup or shipping, call ahead, etc.  
Please Support Elba Businesses During this Time!!  
The Elba Chamber of Commerce

[www.elbacomm.org](http://www.elbacomm.org)

ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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